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Department of State TELEGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY ____ DATE 1/24/84
CONFIDENTIAL EXT 72 TE
AS AMD, REASON(S)
EXCLUDE EXEMPTION MARKINGS ☐
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RELEASE IN PART
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

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ORIGIN ARA 16

INFO SCS 04,SCA 02,EUR 15,SY 03,FBI 01,CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 04,H 02,

INR 07,L 03,NSC 10,P 04,RSC 01,SP 02,SS 25,USIA 12,NSA 02,/113 R

DRAFTED BY: ARA/CEN/BH: RMELTZ
APPROVED BY: ARA/CEN: TFKILLDRAN
SCS: MR JOCHIMSEN SUB
CCA: MR WOLLAM DRAFT
G/PM-MC: MR PHILIPS SUB PARA 3
ARA/MEX: MR YOHN SUB
ARA/CEN/H: MR EISNER
ARA/CEN/G: MR WIGGINS

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R 222246Z NOV 68
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL BELIZE
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

REC-63
EX-103
105-172694-52
NOT RECORDED
12 NOV 25 1968
12-4

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 276468

SUBJ: BACKGROUND ON THIRTEEN AMERICANS DETAINED BH

REF: BELIZE 665

1. MAY PASS FOLLOWING INFO ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS TO GOBH SECURITY OFFICIALS:

A) ~~INTERNATIONAL ANTI-COMMUNIST BRIGADE~~ (IACB), LATIN AMERICAN AKA THE "SECRET ARMY OF THE IACB" FOUNDED BY STURGIS, AKA FIORINI AND BONELLI, IS ONE OF MANY ANTI-CASTRO GROUPS IN MIAMI AREA. FIORINI LEADER AND MOTIVE FORCE WITH BUCHANAN A TOP ASSISTANCE: ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP IN EFFECT CONSISTS OF THOSE FIORINI CAN RECRUIT AT GIVEN MOMENT FOR AN ESCAPADE.

B) FRANK ANGELO FIORINI BORN DEC 9, 1925, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA. LEGALLY CHANGED NAME TO FRANK ANTHONY STURGIS 1953 BUT HAS

54 DEC 11 1968 aka Frank Fiorini Bonelli Sturgis
Cuban FLN 105-172694

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SINCE USED FORMER NAME FIORINI AND OTHER ALIASES; RESIDES 2515 NW 122ND ST. MIAMI AND IS USED CAR SALESMAN. WAS INVOLVED IN SMUGGLING ARMS TO CASTRO PRIOR BATISTA'S OVERTHROW; AFTER CASTRO TOOK POWER 1959, FIORINI GIVEN CAPTAIN'S RANK CUBAN AIRFORCE. HE SOON BROKE WITH CASTRO AND HELPED "BOMB" HAVANA WITH ANTI-CASTRO LEAFLETS OCT 1959 AND REPORTEDLY IN 1961. FOUNDED IACB LATE 1960 OR JAN 1961. DUE SERVICE CUBAN AIRFORCE LOST CITIZENSHIP 1960 BUT RULING REVERSED 1961. FIORINI HAS REPUTATION AS BRAGGART AND LIAR AND APPEARS MORE ADVENTURER THAN DEDICATED POLITICAL EXTREMIST.

C) JERRY BUCHANAN (APPARENTLY AKA CONNELLE IN BH) BORN 11 MARCH 1939 BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA. FIRST U.S. ARMY DISCHARGE "UNDESIRABLE" LATER CHANGED TO HONORABLE; DISCHARGED AGAIN AS "UNDESIRABLE" 1959 AFTER REINLISTING UNDER ALIAS. CONVICTED 1959 BREAKING AND ENTERING AND FORGERY AND SENTENCED THREE YEARS FLORIDA PENITENTIARY. MEMBERSHIP IACB DATES FROM ABOUT 1961.

D) NO SIGNIFICANT INFO ON REMAINING ELEVEN, ALTHOUGH MOST HAVE RECORD SOME ARRESTS OR DETENTIONS; IDENTITIES FOLLOW (BH ALIASES IN PARENTHESES): ROBERT PAUL CURTIS 11/18/37 BUCHANAN, WEST VA.; LAURENCE EUGENE FRANCIS STOY (AKA HERBERT FENDER) 8/3/42 MINNEAPOLIS; MAX GONZALEZ (AKA GORMAN) 12/29/29 NEW YORK CITY (NUMEROUS ARRESTS, SENTENCED ONE YEAR 1959 FOR GRAND LARCENY); JAMES EDWARD HOLTSHOUSER 2/27/41 ST. LOUIS; ERNEST RAY MANNING 9/17/46 ATLANTA; JAMES WALTER WELLS 1/19/37 CENTER WILL, FLORIDA; FRANKLIN DELANO HULBERT 1/4/33 SCRANTON, PA.; MICKEY ROLAND SAPP 4/24/42 WINTER BEACH, FLA.; RICHARD GALE BROWN 4/26/47 GARDEN CITY, NEB.; CHARLES WILLIAM IJAMES RPT IJAMES (AKA JAMES) 3/11/42 ECHOLS, KY.; CHARLES ORR CONNEL 6/28/15 PITTSBURG.

E) OVER THE YEARS FIORINI HAS REPORTEDLY PLANNED VARIOUS HARASSMENTS OF CASTRO REGIME INCLUDING RAIDS ON CUBA. NONE OF SCHEMES HAVE SUCCEEDED EXCEPT PAMPHLET DROPS HAVANA REFERRED ABOVE. HE HAS NOT BEEN PROSECUTED. SOME CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS PRIOR OCTOBER INDICATED FIORINI MIGHT AGAIN BE PLANNING INVASION OR INFILTRATION CUBA. NO INFO DEVELOPED WERE TO CONFIRM EXISTENCE SECOND BOAT OR CONTINGENT. NO RECORD DR. FRANK LYONS AND NO INDICATION IACB HAS "COUNTRY DIRECTOR" FOR BRITISH HONDURAS. ON ARRIVAL US GROUP INTERROGATED AND RELEASED BUT

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INVESTIGATION CONTINUES TO DETERMINE IF SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE VIOLATION US LAW EXISTS FOR PROSECUTION (SEE PARA 3). GROUP WAS MAINTAINED THAT TARGET THEIR OPERATION CUBAN COAST AND LANDING BH RESULT OF MISHAPS.

2. BEGIN FYI: BELIEVE IT STILL UNWISE TO BRING UP WITH GOBH (OR GOG) POSSIBILITY GROUP MAY AT ONE TIME HAVE PLANNED STOP GUATEMALA. DEPT UNABLE LOCATE WASHINGTON ANY EVIDENCE SECOND CONTINGENT MAY BE ELSEWHERE CENTRAL AMERICA. GROUP ITSELF CONTINUED TO CLAIM A SEA RENDEVOUS PLANNED BEFORE PROCEEDING CUBA, BUT ONLY FIORINI CLAIMS EVER TO HAVE SEEN COL. FRANCISCO QUESADA, RAISING POSSIBILITY QUESADA IS A FIORINI INVENTION. END FYI

3. FOR USE US LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, CONSULATE REQUESTED OBTAIN FROM GOBH PHOTOCOPIES OF DOCUMENTS AND LIST (WITH MANUFACTURER, SERIAL NUMBERS AND OTHER IDENTIFYING DATA) OF WEAPONS FOUND IN THEIR POSSESSION. RUSK

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